alignment or additional facilities or higher compensation for the land acquired.

Steps taken to solve the problems:

In order to resolve the problems, the issues are taken up with the concerned State Governments at various levels. Besides, these matters are taken up by Minister for Road Transport and Highways with the concerned Chief Ministers to resolve the problems.

Condition of roads in Punjab

3073. SHRI SUKHBIR SINGH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that road conditions are deteriorating in Punjab;

(b) whether Government have conducted any survey in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof and whether any repair work has been carried out; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS MAJOR GENERAL (RETD.) (B.C. KHANDURI): (a) and (b) National Highways in Punjab are being maintained in traffic worthy condition within the available resources. Their survey and investigation is a continuing process.

(c) Road condition is being improved under periodic renewal, special repair and improvement of riding quality programme from plan and non-plan funds. During the last 4 years improvement of nearly 730 km. of National Highways has been carried out in Punjab.

(d) Does not arise.

Four-laning of Jallandhar-Wagha Border (via Amritsar) Road

3074. SHRI SUKHBIR SINGH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to start and complete the work of four-laning of Jallandhar-Wagha Border (via Amritsar) road on priority basis;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) by when, it is likely to be completed; and

(d) the expenditure to be spent on this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS MAJOR GENERAL (RETD.) (B.C. KHANDURI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Four laning of 20 km stretch from Jallandhar towards Amritsar will be taken up under budgetary support by National Highways Authority of India, for which bids are being invited. For the remaining length of National Highways between Jallandhar and Wagha Border (via Amritsar) various alternatives of funding such as External Assistance, Private Sector Participation and budgetary support are under consideration.

(c) and (d) Expenditure to be incurred will be known after work is awarded. Target for completion of 4-laning of 20 Km. Stretch from Jallandhar side is June 2006. For the remainign length target is not finalised.

Accidents on Indian Roads

3075. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that international organisations have given India the dubious reputation of being the worst accident affected and accident-prone country in the world;

(b) whether Government have received such negative recognition internationally;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) what are the steps proposed by Government to remove this negative impression?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS MAJOR GENERAL (RETD.) (B.C. KHANDURI): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.